

**To:** Purchia, Liz[Purchia.Liz@epa.gov]; Harrison, Melissa[Harrison.Melissa@epa.gov]; Allen, Laura[Allen.Laura@epa.gov]; Conger, Nick[Conger.Nick@epa.gov]; Abrams, Dan[Abrams.Dan@epa.gov]; Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]; Perry, Dale[Perry.Dale@epa.gov]; Lee, Monica[Lee.Monica@epa.gov]; Ragland, Micah[Ragland.Micah@epa.gov]; Gaber, Noha[Gaber.Noha@epa.gov]; Hart, Daniel[Hart.Daniel@epa.gov]; Orquina, Jessica[Orquina.Jessica@epa.gov]; Smith, Roxanne[Smith.Roxanne@epa.gov]; Younes, Lina[Younes.Lina@epa.gov]; Davis, Jay[Davis.Jay@epa.gov]; AO OPA Media Relations[AO\_OPA\_Media\_Relations@epa.gov]  
**From:** Hull, George  
**Sent:** Fri 11/6/2015 4:29:38 AM  
**Subject:** Hot Issues 11/5/2015

[R304.docx](#)  
[ATT00001.htm](#)  
[DRAFT 2014 Grant Awards Announcement News Brief SSowell comments Nov 3 2....docx](#)  
[ATT00002.htm](#)

## **Agency Releases/Advisories/Statements/Events:**

### **Week of 11/2:**

#### **Fri. 11/6:**

**ADVISORY (AO):** EPA Administrator to Austin, TX for National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC)

Note: Will be issued by Region 6 and HQ.

Contact: Enesta

(R305)

**DESK STATEMENT (OTAQ):** News brief announcing certificate of conformity of one non-VW light duty diesel model for 2016. Time TBD.

Contact: Julia

### **Week of 11/9:**

-

**RELEASE (OW):** Clean Watersheds Needs Survey

Contact: Monica and Robert

**Mon. 11/9:**

**ADVISORY (OAR):** EPA Holds Four Public Hearings on Proposed Federal Implementation Plan and Model Rule for the Clean Power Plan/Hearings in Pittsburgh, Denver, Washington D.C. and Atlanta

Contact: Enesta

**Tue. 11/10:**

**RELEASE (OEE):** EPA will announce 35 environmental education grant winners. An additional 34 winners will be announced in coming months (attached).

Contact: Christie

**RELEASE (OAR):** EPA launches effort to decrease lung cancer deaths due to radon exposure (attached).

Contact: Christie

-

**Thur. 11/12:**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS (OAR):** EPA Holds Four Hearings on Proposed Federal Implementation Plan and model trading rule for the Clean Power Plan. -- November 12-13 in Pittsburgh; November 16-17 in Denver; November 18-19 in DC; and November 19-20 in Atlanta.

Contacts: Enesta and Melissa

**RELEASE (OW):** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is partnering with pork and dairy producers, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and environmental and scientific experts to launch the Nutrient Recycling Challenge, a competition to develop affordable technologies that recycle nutrients from livestock waste (attached).

Contact: Robert

**ADVISORY (AO): FRIDAY:** EPA Administrator Delivers Keynote at William & Mary's Climate Change Conference

Contact: Enesta

**Week of 11/16:**

**STATEMENT + BLOG or STATEMENT + PRESS CALL (OAR):** Next Steps on Mercury and Air Toxics Standards (MATS)

Contacts: Enesta and Melissa

**Mon. 11/16:**

**RELEASE (OAR):** EPA Proposes Update to Cross-State Air Pollution Rule for Ozone  
Contact: Enesta

**Interviews:**

**BACKGROUNDER (OAR):** Alison Davis and Mike Koerber of OAQPS will speak with Jane Shaw of The Economist about federal and state regulation of pollutants. -- 11 a.m.  
Contacts: Enesta and Melissa

**Inquiries:**

**60 Minutes+CNN+AP TV (OCSPP):** Asking about restricted use pesticides. Interest prompted by incidents in US Virgin Islands and Florida in which residents suffered health effects from pest control applications.

Contact: Cathy and Laura

**Michigan AP (OW):** reporter is researching a possible story on drinking water as a possible source of lead poisoning. The inquiry follows concerns about possible links between drinking water supplies and elevated lead levels in children's blood in Flint, MI. Reporter wants to know whether there's a nationwide system for detecting lead levels in drinking water. Do any federal laws and/or regulations require such testing? If so, what are the required protocols, and are there databases that keep track of the findings? Or is this left to state and/or local governments to deal with? He's also interested in how big a role drinking water plays in lead poisoning. No firm deadline. Robert is working with OW to develop responses.

Contact: Melissa + Region

**Allegheny Front (Pittsburgh's NPR News Station):** Reid Frazier is doing a story about why some coal-fired power plants decided to invest in pollution controls and some decided to shut down and the implications of these decisions on local economies and the electric grid. He is looking for data on how many plants around the country are installing scrubbers to comply with MATS and CSAPR and whether all plants are going to have to keep a certain level of pollution control, or if it depends on the state. Working with the program and Melissa.  
DDL: 11/10.

Contact: Enesta

**KRDO (ABC) in CO Springs (Region 8):** Setting up interview with R8 RA Shaun McGrath on current and future plans for GKM.

Contact: Christie

**BNA/Bloomberg (OW+Region 10):** Asking for reaction to the release of a Congressional report critical of EPA's decision not to allow operation of a mine in Bristol Bay, Alaska.

Contact: Robert, Monica, Marianne Holsman

**Morning Telegraph (Tyler, TX) (OW+OECA):** Asking about the health effects of haloacetic acid (HAA5) in drinking water. The inquiry follows a NOV to the city of Tyler, TX by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality on October 1<sup>st</sup>, prompted by findings of HAA5 in the city's water supply. Public concern on the issue has grown following a Facebook post on October 30 by environmental activist Erin Brockovich. The city, which says its drinking water supply is safe, is planning to hold a news conference on the issue on Wednesday, November 4, at 11 AM Central. OW has drafted, and we've sent, responses to the questions on the health effects of HAA5. OECA is looking at a question at penalties and enforcement for improper control of the substance in water supplies.

Contact: Robert

**NPR (Winston-Salem, N.C.) (OAR + OW):** Keri Brown is working on a taped-to-air piece about the rise of poultry in that area and is seeking an interview on the current and future federal regulatory efforts of the poultry industry. Will start with written information so the reporter can provide specific questions. Will be working with the programs, Melissa and Monica.

DDL: 11/10.

Contacts: Enesta and Robert

**McClatchy (OAR):** Chris Adams is doing a story about state-by-state action on the Clean Power Plan and checking on which states are not included and why. Working with the program and Melissa. DDL: 11/6, a.m.

Contact: Enesta